



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
LANSING

JAMES K. HAVEMAN
DIRECTOR

January 17, 2013

Dear Colleague:

The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH), Division of Health, Wellness and Disease Control (DHWDC), HIV/AIDS Prevention and Intervention Section (HAPIS), is pleased to announce the availability of funding through a competitive Request for Application (RFA) process. These funds are to support integrated testing for HIV, hepatitis C, gonorrhea and chlamydia in substance use disorder facilities.

A copy of the RFA is attached for your information and reference. Eligibility, program requirements, and funding details are detailed in this RFA. Complete applications are due by 3:00 p.m. EST on February 7, 2013. Late applications will not be accepted or reviewed.

Questions and requests for clarification must be submitted IN WRITING by January 24, 2013. The MDCH, DHWDC, HAPIS will post a frequently asked questions document on the MDCH website on January 31, 2013. Details regarding how to submit questions are outlined on page 7 of the RFA.

We thank you for your interest in this competitive funding process. Please direct questions about this RFA to Kristine Judd-Tuinier at (313) 456-4426 or judd-tuinierk@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

Anna Osman
Director, Division of Health, Wellness and Disease Control

Attachment

c: L. Chastang
J. Du Frane
K. Judd-Tuinier
K. Krzanowski
L. Mazuca
B. Stoneburner

**Integrated Testing Project
HIV, Hepatitis C, Gonorrhea and Chlamydia**

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
Division of Health, Wellness and Disease Control
HIV/AIDS Prevention and Intervention Section**

Request for Applications (RFA)

Application Deadline:

February 7, 2013

Introduction and Background

Injection drug use (IDU) is a risk factor for both HIV and hepatitis C. Drug use plays other, less recognized roles in HIV transmission through increased likelihood of engagement in high-risk sexual activity. Substance use also increases risk for other sexually transmitted diseases (STD).

The Michigan Department of Community Health, Division of Health, Wellness, and Disease Control, HIV/AIDS Prevention and Intervention Section (MDCH/DHWDC/HAPIS) received funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to support a multi-year demonstration project to provide HIV, Hepatitis C, gonorrhea, and chlamydia testing in substance use disorder (SUD) facilities.

The goal of this project is to develop, implement, and evaluate a demonstration project that will involve: 1) doing integrated HIV, hepatitis C, gonorrhea, and chlamydia testing and counseling on-site in residential substance use disorder treatment programs and methadone programs and 2) developing and providing effective linkages to care for clients who test positive.

Health Equity

The Request For Application (RFA) supports efforts to improve the health of populations disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS by maximizing the health impact of public health services, reducing disease prevalence, and promoting health equity consistent with the National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS). Health disparities in HIV are inextricably linked to a complex blend of social determinants that influence populations most severely affected by this disease. Health equity is a desirable goal that entails special efforts to improve the health of those who have experienced social or economic disadvantage.

Social determinants of health affect disparities in HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, STD and TB. Details of the health equity strategy and approach are outlined in the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP) Social Determinants of Health White Paper (<http://www.cdc.gov/socialdeterminants/docs/SDH-White-Paper-2010.pdf>).

Selection Criteria

Eligible Applicants Include:

1. Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Residential Programs
2. SUD Methadone Treatment Programs

Applicants Must Have:

1. An affiliation as a publicly-funded service provider through the Substance Use Disorder Coordinating Agency network, funded through the MDCH Bureau of Substance Abuse and Addiction Services.
2. Serve clients in one or more of the following geographic areas: The City of Detroit or the county of Genesee, Ingham, Jackson, Kent, Kalamazoo, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, or Saginaw.

Availability of Funds

MDCH will provide an annual stipend of \$20,000 - 25,000 to agencies participating in this project. Funding awarded under this RFA will be for a 31 month period, based on availability of funding. The first year stipend will be for the period of March 1, 2013 – September 30, 2013 is intended for start-up costs. Agreements will be extended annually based on successful implementation of program objectives and continued availability of funds.

Application Timeline and Review

Applications must be received no later than **3:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 7, 2013**. MDCH staff from the Division of Health, Wellness, and Disease Control will review applications, with input from Bureau of Substance Abuse and Addiction Services (BSAAS), and make final determinations based on agency capacity and readiness to implement.

Submission

Please complete the application in its entirety using an easily readable serif typeface, such as Times Roman, Courier, or CG Times font. Applicants may submit application by mail or email ONLY, faxed application will not be accepted. Detailed instruction for each method is outlined below.

MAIL - Applicants are required to submit the signed original and three (3) copies to:

Kristine Judd-Tuinier, STD Administrative Manager
Michigan Department of Community Health
Division of Health, Wellness, and Disease Control
3056 W. Grand Blvd., Suite 3150
Detroit, MI 48202

EMAIL – Applications can be emailed, in PDF format only, to Kristine Judd-Tuinier at judd-tuinierk@michigan.gov. If you do not receive a verification email within 1 business day, please contact Kristine at 313/456-4426. For sites choosing to email their application, a signed copy must be sent via mail to fulfill the requirement of an original signature.

Site selection will be completed by February 20, 2013, and agencies will be notified no later than February 26, 2013.

Individual site objectives will be negotiated based on capacity.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

A. Program Standards

Agencies awarded funding under this RFA are expected to implement communicable disease (CD) screening specifically for Hepatitis C (HCV), HIV, gonorrhea, and chlamydia. This program is intended to provide testing to individuals who receive services within the facility, unless the patient declines. Confirmatory testing for both HCV and HIV must be provided for all patients with a positive screening test.

Agencies awarded funding under this RFA are expected to establish and maintain the linkages and procedures necessary to ensure that clients found to be infected with HIV, HCV, chlamydia or gonorrhea are referred to and receive medical evaluation and treatment, as well as access to partner services for those who test positive for HIV.

B. Program Implementation

Agency will receive technical assistance, training, and support for the duration of the project. Implementation planning activities are expected to be completed within 90 days of site selection. It is expected that successful applicants will have fully implemented communicable disease screening for at least three full months during the first year of the award. Failure to make reasonable progress toward implementation of communicable disease screening may result in revocation of the stipend.

Technical assistance will be facilitated by the project coordinator, Kristine Judd-Tuinier.

C. Financial, Performance and Progress Reporting Requirements

MDCH will negotiate specific objectives and performance benchmarks with each Agency based on their census. Agencies have full responsibility for the successful performance and completion of all the services and deliverables established and agreed upon in the work plan. Progress toward objectives will be closely monitored by the MDCH project coordinator. Disbursement of funds will be given for successful performance of service and deliverable benchmarks.

Agencies will be required to submit written protocol and procedures associated with screening efforts. Additionally, agencies selected for funding under this RFA will be required to submit financial, performance and progress reports, according to formats, guidelines and frequency established by DHWDC/HAPIS. Agencies will also be required to submit data de-identified to DHWDC/HAPIS, at mutually agreed upon frequency.

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

A. Payments

Electronic transfer of funds is required for payments on State contracts. The Contractor must register with the State electronically at <http://www.cpexpress.state.mi.us>. As stated in 1984 PA 431, all contracts that the State enters into for the purchase of goods and services must provide that payment will be made by Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT).

B. Reimbursement Method

The Agency will be reimbursed using a 50/25/25 reimbursement method. The Agency will be reimbursed each annual period as follows:

- a. Fifty percent (50%) of the total award will be paid within thirty (30) days after Agency submission and MDCH approval of the fiscal year work plan and issuance of the fiscal year purchase order by MDCH to the Agency.
- b. Twenty-five (25%) of the total amount will be paid half way through the annual project period based on successful completion of specific performance benchmarks set by MDCH .
- c. The balance due will be paid upon the receipt of final progress and financial reports. Final reports must be received at MDCH no later than 60 days after the end of the annual project period.

Integrated Testing Project HIV, Hepatitis C, Gonorrhea and Chlamydia

Application

This application is intended to describe your existing capacity and readiness to implement this project.

Agency Information:

Legal name of organization applying: _____

Authorized Agent: _____ Phone: _____

Contact Person for this application: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Fax: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

1. Do you current provide communicable disease testing? ☐Yes ☐No

a. If yes, please check all that apply

☐HIV Testing method _____ (ex. Blood draw, Oral fluid, etc.)

☐HCV Testing method _____

☐Gonorrhea

☐Chlamydia

☐Other (please list) _____

2. Do you have clinical staff in place? ☐Yes ☐No

If yes, please describe how many clinicians including type (RN, LPN, etc.)

Narrative:

Please answer each of the following questions; your answers should not exceed five (5) pages.

1. Please describe your experience providing medical care and screening services for at-risk individuals. Your experience and success should be supported with quantitative and qualitative data when available.
2. Please describe your current clinical structure. This should include hours of operation, and ability to treat onsite.
3. For agency's who currently provide HIV testing, what processes are in place for linking a person testing positive for HIV into care? Please include the names of any partner agencies or clinics.
4. This project will require the ability to perform testing onsite for HIV and Hepatitis C. These are both CLIA waived rapid tests that require a finger poke. Does your agency have a CLIA certificate for waived tests?
5. Gonorrhea and chlamydia testing is urine-based. This will require a system to transfer urine into a shipping tube and specimens be sent to an assigned MDCH lab. Is your clinic set up to assure this process is completed? If not, what would you need to build your capacity to ship specimens?
6. Who will serve as the champion of this project (name, title, contact information)? Please describe their experience with implementing new projects.
7. This project includes a data entry requirement. Please briefly describe your ability to enter information into a web-based data system? Who will be responsible for data reporting?
8. Please describe your current ability to bill third parties for service.

Questions

Thank you for your interest in participating in this exciting project! Questions regarding this RFA must be submitted in writing to Kristine Judd-Tuinier at judd-tuinierk@michigan.gov by 4 p.m. on January 24, 2013. A frequently asked questions document will be developed and posted on the MDCH/HAPIS website www.michigan.gov/mdch/HIV/STD by 4 p.m. on January 31, 2013.

